

**MANIFOLD ABSOLUTE PRESSURE CONTROL SYSTEM AND
METHOD FOR A HYBRID ELECTRIC VEHICLE**

ABSTRACT OF THE INVENTION

Methods and apparatus are provided for controlling manifold absolute pressure in a hybrid electric vehicle that includes an internal combustion engine in parallel with an electric motor/generator. The 5 method includes the steps of monitoring the torque demand on the hybrid electric vehicle, monitoring the manifold absolute pressure magnitude and change rate of the internal combustion engine, supplying torque from the internal combustion engine to meet the torque demand; and supplying torque from the motor/generator to load-level the torque supplied from the 10 internal combustion engine and to maintain the manifold absolute pressure of the internal combustion engine within an acceptable range and rate.